

**REMARKS**

Claims 15, 16 and 18-27 are pending in the application and stand rejected in view of a number of objections due to informalities, 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections, and 35 U.S.C. 101 rejections. Applicant submits that the present reply endeavors to resolve each and every one of these objections and rejections.

Specifically, with regards to the informalities noted by the Examiner, the claims are amended herein to cancel the term "thereby." With regards to the rejections, the claims are amended herein to replace "end value" with "first value," "further attribute set" with "another attribute set," and "new attribute set" with "merged attribute set."

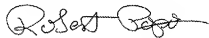
In view of all of the above, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Should any issues remain unresolved by the present amendments, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

I hereby certify that this document is being transmitted to the  
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Respectfully submitted,



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